



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

ENTERPRISE, TRADE AND INVESTMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

8 MAY 2014

ROOM 30, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, 10.00AM

Present:	Mr Patsy McGlone (Chairperson) Mr Phil Flanagan (Deputy Chairperson) Mr Steven Agnew Mr Sydney Anderson Mr Sammy Douglas Mr Gordon Dunne Mr Paul Frew Mr Fearghal McKinney Mr Mitchel McLaughlin Ms Sandra Overend
In Attendance:	Mr Jim McManus (Assembly Clerk) Ms Angela McParland (Assistant Assembly Clerk) Mr Nathan McVeigh (Clerical Supervisor) Ms Jacqueline Holt (Clerical Officer)
Apologies:	None

The meeting began at 10.16am in closed session.

- 1. Application by Tamboran Resources Pty Ltd for a 6 month extension to the date for the completion of Part 1 of the Work Programme under Petroleum Licence PL2/10 – Oral briefing from Assembly Legal Services**

The Clerk reminded members that this document is privileged and restricted.

The representative joined the meeting at 10.16am.

Members received an oral briefing from Alice McKelvey, Legal Advisor

Sandra Overend joined the meeting at 11.08am

Mitchel McLaughlin left the meeting at 11.35am

The representative left the meeting at 11.46am.

Agreed: to commission additional legal advice on this matter.

Agreed: to commission Assembly Research on the procedures that are to be followed in relation to each term of the petroleum licence.

Agreed: to reissue the Committee's request to the Department for a copy of all correspondence between them and Tamboran, as far back as the first item of correspondence.

Sammy Douglas left the meeting at 11.46am

The meeting went into public session at 11.46am.

2. Apologies

Apologies were noted, as listed above.

3. Minutes of meetings held on Thursday 1 May 2014.

Agreed: The Committee agreed the draft minutes of 1 May 2014.

4. Chairperson's Business

None

5. Competition Commission Final Price Determination, I-SEM, EU Market Integration, Gas to the West and NIE Payment Security Policy – Oral briefing from Utility Regulator

The representatives joined the meeting at 11.47am.

Sammy Douglas returned to the meeting at 12.11pm

Mitchel McLaughlin returned to the meeting at 12.28pm

Paul Frew left the meeting at 12.37pm

Mitchel McLaughlin left the meeting at 12.54pm

Fearghal McKinney left the meeting at 12.55pm

Members received an oral briefing from Jenny Pyper, Chief Executive, Tanya Hedley, Director of Networks Water and Gas and Jody O'Boyle, Electricity Networks Manager.

Key issues discussed included: Competition Commission Final Price Determination, extra regulatory powers, cost to consumers and renewable energy.

Agreed: that the Utility Regulator provide a breakdown of investment details in NIE's request, the Utility Regulator's final decision and the CC final determination for comparison. The Utility Regulator forward to the Committee the excerpt from the non-technical summary which was referred to during the briefing.

Agreed: to schedule a briefing from the Utility Regulator on I-SEM at a future meeting.

Agreed: to reschedule a briefing from the Utility Regulator on the Electricity Policy Review Part III Grid Connections.

The representatives left the meeting at 12.59am.

The Chairperson left the meeting at 12.59pm

The Deputy Chairperson took the Chair at 12.59pm

Sammy Douglas left the meeting at 1.00pm

6. Electricity Policy Review Part III Grid Connections – Oral briefing from Utility Regulator

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

7. Matters Arising

Members considered a letter from the Minister to the Chairperson on proposed arrangements for the enforcement of EU Regulation 181/2011 dealing with bus and coach passenger rights.

Agreed: that members are content with the approach outlined by the Minister.

Members noted an agenda and list of invitees for the Energy Efficiency Workshop that the Committee is to host with Green Investment Bank on 10 June 2014.

Members noted guidance produced by the Irish Wind Energy Association which addresses the Committee's query to Assembly Research about power purchase agreements.

Members considered a response from the Northern Ireland Tourist Board to the Committee's query on what it is specifically doing in relation to linear cycling routes.

Agreed: to forward the response to the Committee for Regional Development for information in relation to its inquiry and to the Northern Ireland Local Government Association for distribution to the relevant officials in local councils.

The Chairperson informed members that the Committee has confirmed with Invest NI that representing the Committee on the trade mission to San Diego, California, will be Sandra Overend, Gordon Dunne, Fearghal McKinney and Meagan Fearon.

8. Written Briefing from DETI: Operating Plan 2014/15

Members considered a written briefing from DETI regarding its Operating Plan 2014/15.

Agreed: that the Committee is content with the DETI Operating Plan 2014/15.

9. Written Briefing from DETI: 2014 – 2015 Main Estimates

Members considered a written briefing from DETI regarding 2014 – 2015 Main Estimates.

Agreed: that the Committee is content with the DETI 2014 – 2015 Main Estimates.

10. Consultation: Proposals to Introduce Charges for the Assessment of Onshore Borehole Notifications

Members considered a consultation regarding Proposals to Introduce Charges for the Assessment of Onshore Borehole Notifications.

Agreed: that the Committee is content with the consultation regarding Proposals to Introduce Charges for the Assessment of Onshore Borehole Notifications.

11. Correspondence

Members noted the following items of correspondence:

- i. Members noted correspondence from a member of the public regarding their concerns on fracking.
- ii. Members noted correspondence from the Committee for Finance and Personnel drawing the Committee's attention to the Hansard transcript of 30 April 2014 of a briefing from a joint panel of DFP and SEUPB officials in which members were briefed, amongst other issues, on future EU Structural Funds 2014-20.
- iii. From JPR Belfast, the public relations company representing DP Energy which has secured a Crow Estate Licence for the construction of a 100MW tidal generation scheme off the coast of Antrim near Murlough Bay.

Agreed: to request a written briefing from DP Energy on this matter.

9. Any other business

There was no additional items of business.

10. Date, time and place of next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee will take place on **15 May 2014** at **10.00am** in **Room 30, Parliament Buildings**.

The Deputy Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 1.04pm.

Mr Patsy McGlone
Chairperson
Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment

15 May 2014